



ECA ALUMNI UKRAINE NEWSLETTER

No: 2

January –
March 2002

PUBLIC AFFAIRS SECTION - U.S. EMBASSY IN UKRAINE

* CALENDAR * CONFERENCES/ SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS * NEWS /ANNOUNCEMENTS
* GRANTS OPPORTUNITIES * ALUMNI GROUPS' CORNERS * NEWS FROM REGIONS
* PROFILES * SMALL GRANT PROJECT REPORTS * RELATED LINKS

OUR ADDRESS: Public Affairs Section, U.S. Embassy, 4 Hlybochys'ka St., Kyiv 04050 Ukraine
Tel.: 380 - 44- 490-0426, 490 -0427; Fax : 380 – 44 - 490-0428
<http://www.usinfo.usemb.kiev.ua>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 14, 2002 – IATP/Uzhhorod will host a seminar “Drug Abuse Prevention” conducted by a group of ECA alumni for students.

March 15, 2002 - IATP/Kharkiv, FSA Flex alumni club meeting.

March 14, 21 and 28 – IATP/Vinnysia , ECA alumni are invited to participate in the English Speaking Club meetings.

March 16, 2002 – FSA Flex alumni will be hosting the Second Annual Benefit Ball. All proceeds raised will go to the Kyiv Oncological Center. The event will take place at the Dnipro Hotel.

March 16 and 30, 2002 – IATP/Donetsk – All ECA alumni are invited to take part in the Donetsk Alumni English Club Day conducted by PiE alumni.

March 19, 21, 22 and 25 – IATP/Chernihiv will conduct training seminars for ECA alumni “Web Design for Beginners.”

March 20, 2002 – IATP/Lviv will host a seminar “Individual Style in Web Design.”

March 22, 2002 – ACCELS/Kyiv. Evening with an expert. “Ukraine’s Integration into Europe.”

March 23, 2002 – IREX/Kyiv will host an alumni training seminar on Effective Project Management.

March 23, 2002 – ACCELS/Dnipropetrovsk will be hosting a seminar for FSA Flex, FSA Undergraduate, TEA and PiE alumni “Sound Body, Sound Mind.”

March 23, 2002 – IATP/Zaporizhzhia, “Fundraising Training Seminar” for ECA alumni conducted by a Community Connections alumnus focusing on different aspects of the grant-seeking process and available resources.

March 24, 2002 – ACCELS/Kharkiv. FSA Flex and Undergraduate alumni will conduct a peer-education seminar “Activity of Young Voters.”

March 26, 2002 – ACCELS/Kyiv. Evening with an expert. “Leadership in Business.”

March 27, 2002 – IATP/Lviv, presentation of the third issue of “New Ways of Communication” alumni bulletin.

March 28, 2002 – IATP/Uzhhorod, training seminar “My First Web-site.”

March 29, 2002 – Deadline for the Alumni Local Initiative Grants Program (for the FSA Undergraduate, E.Muskie/FSA Graduate, Junior Faculty Development Program, Partners in Education, Regional Scholar Exchange Program alumni).

March 29, 2002 – IATP/Chernihiv, seminar for ECA alumni “Security on the Internet.”

March 30, 2002 – IATP/Zaporizhzhia will host a social gathering for the Community Connections Alumni “Remembering America.”

April 5, 2002 – Alumni needs assessment meeting, IREX/Kyiv.

CONFERENCES /SEMINARS /WORKSHOPS

On **January 19, 2002** a group of 29 ECA alumni gathered at the **American Councils for International Education: ACTR/ACCELS** office in Kyiv for a seminar “**Civil Code of Ukraine.**” The topics included: Correlation between the New Civil and Commercial Codes of Ukraine; Subject Matter of the Civil Code; Property and Possession Protection, and others. Leading experts from the Institute of International Relations (Professor Olexander Biryukov, member of the Civil Code working group), Kharkiv National University (Professors Iryna Zhylinkova and Vsevolod Rechytskiy), National University “Kyiv-Mohyla Academy” (Vasyl Horbachuk), representatives of the law offices of Magister and Partners, Altheimer and Grey, and the Center for Commercial Law participated in a discussion focusing on the history of codification in Ukraine, comparing certain articles and provisions of the new civil code of Ukraine with its previous versions and civil codes of other countries. The workshop participants compiled recommendations which were sent to the Civil Code working group.

On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and Ukraine, the **U.S. Embassy** invited Ukrainian officials, foreign guests and Ukrainian alumni of U.S. government-sponsored exchange programs, for a concert and reception at the National Philharmonic Hall on **January 21, 2002**. More than four hundred guests were greeted by DCM Marie Yovanovitch and Foreign Minister Anatoliy. Zlenko. The DCM highlighted important milestone events in the U.S. – Ukraine relations over the past decade. Photographs of the ceremony marking the presentation of the diplomatic note opening the U.S. Embassy were on display. The concert program included works

by American and Ukrainian composers performed by the National Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine (conductor – David Andre, soloist – Martin Berinbaum, trumpet).

In connection with this anniversary, the Public Affairs Section, in cooperation with USAID, coordinated a series of events throughout Ukraine. On January 23-24, 2002, local IATP centers, together with UMREP press clubs, held meetings for Ukrainian alumni of U.S. government-sponsored exchange programs and journalists in ten cities of Ukraine (Poltava, Kharkiv, Chernihiv, Donetsk, Kirovohrad, Lviv, Odesa, Uzhhorod, Khmelnytskyi, and Chernivtsi). Some 85 alumni participated in the meetings and discussed the benefits of their international education experience, the impact of U.S. exchange programs on Ukrainians and Americans, and what Ukrainian program participants have been able to share with Americans about Ukraine, its culture, language, and history.

February 8, 2002 – the **Public Affairs Section** conducted a DVC program on **Credit Card Fraud**. On the American side there were Helen Goff Foster, Attorney, Federal Trade Commission (Division of Financial Practices, Bureau of Consumer Protection) and Tim Frank of the Secret Service Division (special agent in the Financial Crimes Division). The Ukrainian audience included fifteen representatives of leading Ukrainian banks (National Bank of Ukraine, Bank AVAL, CreditPromBank, PryvatBank) specialists of the Ukrainian InterBank “Europay International” Member Association, a group of ECA and the British Council alumni. The two American experts gave a briefing on the current situation in the U.S. bank card industry, legal aspects that regulate customer relationships of U.S. credit card issuers, financial institutions, merchants, etc. The briefing was followed by numerous questions from the Ukrainian participants, including how credit card companies/ banks’ fraud units help their customers not to become victims of credit card fraud; how innovative technologies are popularized; whether the so-called predictive software solutions are widely used by credit card issuers in the U.S. Ms. Foster and Mr. Frank shared their expertise on how to efficiently implement credit card fraud risk management and minimize risks of fraudulent transactions.



The interest was so high that it took much more time than anticipated.

On **February 9, 2002**, the participants of the DVC session were joined by other specialists in this sphere, most of them ECA alumni for a round table “Bank Cards in Ukraine: Use, Fraud, Security.” The agenda covered many topical issues ranging from the general situation with electronic transactions in Ukraine, to legal aspects of bank card business, and methods of clients’ saving protection. The participants had an opportunity to get some useful printed materials, such as “Fundamentals of Fraud Prevention” and “Card Fraud Facts” booklet provided by the British Council. Both the DVC and round table received very high ratings from the participants and observers, and got positive media coverage. Proceedings of the seminar were published and disseminated among Ukrainian banks.



Paul Hacker, Cultural Affairs Officer, making opening remarks

NEWS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

On **April 11-14, 2002** the American Embassy will be hosting the Jazz Ambassador Trio - leading American jazz musicians Virginia Mayhew, Allison Miller and Gary Wang. In Kyiv, events will include two master classes, a small club performance, and a concert.

CI and RSEP PROGRAM ALUMNI ACTIVITIES

On **February 15, 2002** IREX/Kyiv hosted an alumni lecture “**Leadership as a Phenomenon of Social Life and Individual Development**” conducted by Natalia Andriyevska (CI alumna), director of the Civic Leadership Institute. The lecturer addressed the following issues in a discussion with a group of CI and RSEP alumni: Civilization Changes: Globalization, Civil Societies Development; System of Common Values; Leadership Behavior Implementation in All Aspects of Life; Description of Existing Models of the Term “Leader,” Leader of a New Type; Leadership in the Process of Education Transformation.

On **March 2, 2002** IREX/Kyiv conducted a training seminar for CI and RSEP alumni “**Business Communications.**” It was the first in

a series of seminars under the Alumni Continuing Education project aimed at providing ECA alumni throughout NIS with more opportunities for their professional development. The seminar was conducted by James Crozier, an American Professor currently working in Moldova.

On **March 23, 2002** a group of CI and RSEP alumni gathered for a training seminar “**Effective Project Management**” conducted by Iryna Trokhym (CI alumna), manager of the Lviv Charitable Fund Incubator Center. Different aspects of grant proposal writing and project development were discussed by the participants.

FSA FLEX PROGRAM ALUMNI ACTIVITIES

Fifteen FSA Flex and ten FSA Undergraduate alumni participated in two training seminars “**Political Activity of Young Voters**” held on March 2 and 9, 2002 at the **American Councils for International Education : ACTR/ACCELS**

office. This was a joint project of ACCELS and the Public Affairs Section aimed at strengthening civil society and promoting civic education in Ukraine. The training sessions were conducted by Professor Volodymyr Pozdnyakov, Center for

Humanities of the Ukrainian Academy of Science, and Olha Zhurba, coordinator of the Center for Civic Education. Some of the topics of the seminars included: political ideology, free and conscious choice of political ideology, critical thinking, tolerance to opponents, etc. During discussions, participants hotly debated such questions as the importance of exercising young people's right to vote, and taking a more proactive role in their communities. The event underscored the fact that Ukrainian young alumni have a shared vision of a better country in which they wish to live.

On **March 16, 2002** the FSA Flex alumni association held their **Second Annual Benefit Ball** at the Dnipro Hotel. The alumni sought to raise funds to support the Kyiv regional Oncology Center. Honorary Chairman of this year's event was U.S. Ambassador Carlos Pascual, who supports the endeavors of alumni to help those more vulnerable in Ukraine. Funds raised from the Ball will be used to maintain equipment, purchase medicines, and provide as many other services as possible. This year's sponsors included British Airways, Swissair, "Hamaliya" Travel Agency, Pharmaceutical company "Farmak," "Strike" Bowling Club, Tokyo Restaurant, "Kinopalats" Movie Theatre, "Koleso" Theatre, Lesya Ukrainka Russian

Drama and Ivan Franko Ukrainian Drama Theatres, AVON Cosmetics, the National Philharmonic of Ukraine. About 120 guests, representative of numerous Ukrainian, American and international businesses and organizations, attended the Ball. The Second Annual Benefit Ball organizing committee extend their thanks to everyone who contributed to this noble effort to assist those suffering from cancer. This event proved once again that Ukrainian FSA Flex alumni are determined not only to succeed in their own future careers, but to make life better for others.



Ambassador Carlos Pascual and the members of the Second Annual Benefit Ball organizing committee.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS PROGRAM ALUMNI ACTIVITIES

Community Connections Program Alumni Mini-grants Winter 2002

The Community Connections Program Alumni residing in **Dnipropetrovsk, Zakarpattya oblasts and the Autonomous Republic of Crimea** regions were invited to submit grant proposals for the Mini Grant Program administered by Project Harmony and sponsored by the United States Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The main goal of this program is to encourage alumni to take an active role in developing their local communities and strengthening civil society. Last year's mini grant program proved to be valuable in providing opportunities for the Community Connections program alumni to share their U.S. experience with colleagues on various issues ranging from economic development to education.

This year, the following five projects proposed by the CC alumni will be supported:

Anna Khomutova, Center for Disabled Women "**Bereginya**" in **Simferopol**, will create a legal center aimed at providing legal support to disabled women and young people with disabilities. The center will create a computer database of basic legal documents relevant to the protection of rights of disabled people; publish and distribute a brochure "Protect Your Rights," which will include articles on Ukrainian legislation concerning people with disabilities.

Marina Sats is a head of **FENIX Ecological Association in Evpatoria**. Within the framework of her project, she will be adapting her American experience to resolve local ecological problems, such as development of sea farms, technologies for the collection and conversion of hard waste products, management of hotel farms, etc. She is also planning to establish and maintain ties between the Crimea Community Connections alumni group and Maine Technical College that hosted her group

in the U.S., in order to exchange experience, modern technologies, etc.

Tetyana Shepelyak from the **Transcarpatian Charity Association (Mizhhirya District)** will receive a grant to run a specialized educational center for disabled children of Mizhhirya district. The center will create a special educational and rehabilitation programs for disabled children, as well as provide services to them and their families. Project Harmony will partially support this project together with other donors, such as UNICEF, the Renaissance Foundation and others.

Victor Tkachenko, director of the **Humanities Gymnasium in Dnipropetrovsk** won a grant for creating an NGO "Natkhnennia" (Inspiration), which will unite enthusiastic secondary school administrators, teachers and citizens of Dnipropetrovsk in order to resolve educational problems and establish contacts with educational NGOs in other oblasts of Ukraine. Within the framework of this project, they plan to publish a school digest; create a web-page for their organization and start to exchange experience with other educational NGOs in the region;

produce a broadcast show on local TV to initiate a discussion of pedagogical problems in secondary schools.

Eleanora Vyshnyak is the head of the "Center of Social Initiatives" Charity Fund in **Perehyn district, Transcarpathian region**.

Her project supports the development of more equal relations between teachers and students by promoting school self-government activities.



Signing contracts with grant recipients.

For more details please visit the Project Harmony web site: www.projectharmony.kiev.ua

NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

Dnipropetrovsk

On **January 25, 2002**, a group of twenty ECA alumni together with representatives of the Dnipropetrovsk National University, the Regional Radio and TV Company, and local journalists, participated in a round table "**Social Responsibility of Mass Media and Its Role in the Democratization Processes in Ukraine**" hosted by the American Councils Dnipropetrovsk Office.

Lviv

On **January 30, 2002**, a group of ECA alumni from Lviv, Uzhhorod and Sumy participated in the presentation of the second issue of the alumni newsletter "**New Ways of Communication**" held at the IATP Center. Both Ukrainian and American alumni contributed articles to this issue. The electronic version can be found at : www.new-ways.iatp.org.

A discussion of possible questions and themes to be highlighted in future issues were followed by an introduction of artistic textile works of Ukrainian artists available on the Internet.

Presentation of the third issue of the alumni bulletin is scheduled for **March 27, 2002**.

Chernihiv

On **January 22, 2002**, IATP representative in Chernihiv moderated an on-line discussion of issues related to freedom of speech in Ukraine. Some forty Ukrainian journalists participated in the chat and shared their views on such issues as the role of mass media in upcoming parliamentary elections, freedom of speech on the Internet, political advertising, and some other topics concerning politics and elections.

On **January 26, 2002**, another chat was hosted by the IATP/Chernihiv Center. Ukrainian high school students discussed **anti-drug strategies** with their American counterparts from Burlington, MA. This on-line discussion was initiated and moderated by Valeriy Ryabukha, FSA CI alumnus, and Bill Fordyce, Peace Corps volunteer. Among the topics covered were the DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program in the U.S. and problems of drug abuse in Chernihiv.

More information can be found at:

www.society.iatp.org.ua

Kharkiv

Thirteen Ukrainian alumni of the E.Muskie/FSA Graduate, FSA Undergraduate, FSA Contemporary Issues, Partners in Education, Junior Faculty Development and Regional Scholar Exchange programs, participated in a six-day **Alumni Winter Distance Learning School (January 28 – February 2, 2002)** organized by Kharkiv/IATP center in cooperation with the Kharkiv Polytechnic University and the Laboratory of Distance Learning Technologies. By the end of the course, all participants had an opportunity to create their own distance learning applications and post those courses on the IATP server for public use.

On **February 19 and 20, 2002, Congressman Bob Schaffer** visited Kharkiv where he had a number of meetings and talks with various audiences including high-ranking officials, journalists, university staff and students, business and NGO representatives.

At a meeting with ECA alumni held at the Kharkiv American Center (an initiative of the Cincinnati-Kharkiv Sister City Partnership Project) Congressman Schaffer spoke to a group of about 25 former participants of USG-sponsored exchange programs (university professors, junior faculty and students, lawyers, business representatives). Congressman Schaffer covered such topics as the U.S. - Ukraine strategic partnership; Ukraine's future democratization, its integration into Western structures; activities of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus. During an active and fruitful discussion with the audience the following issues were also touched upon: Congressman Schaffer's participation in the Education Committee, his suggestions on how to improve education; the U.S. election system, the Congressman's relations with his constituency; issues relating to social security; questions relating to strengthening family and upholding moral virtue. Many questions were related to U.S. financial aid to Ukraine in general and specific programs designed to promote democracy in particular. The discussion proved to be of a great interest to all the participants, and it took much more time than was anticipated.

A meeting with students of the private school "Ochah" (Hearth) turned out to be one of the most vivid and interesting. Congressman Schaffer gave frank answers to a dozen questions concerning parental relations in American families, concerns of young people in the U.S.,

his impressions of Ukraine, its people and traditions, prospects for U.S.-Ukraine relations. Especially intense and productive was a journalists roundtable held at the Kharkiv Partnership Office. Congressman Schaffer had a chance to meet and talk to about 15 local journalists, representatives of leading print and broadcast media outlets. Some of them traveled to the U.S. last year on the Community Connections program and had internships in the Cincinnati area. Congressman Schaffer provided clear answers and explanations to a number of questions, sometimes provocative, concerning the U.S. electoral system; the purpose of recent visits of a number of the high ranking American officials to Ukraine; aspects of the on-going electoral campaign in Ukraine, possibility of election tampering; measures needed to preempt instances of election fraud. Congressman Schaffer underscored that this is a very critical time in Ukraine's development as a democracy, and that Ukrainian citizens have the ultimate responsibility for ensuring fair and transparent elections. Other issues discussed were related to legislative actions concerning the Jackson-Vanik Amendment with reference to Ukraine; questions regarding corruption, privatization, private land ownership in Ukraine, immunity of the Ukrainian Rada Deputies, slow progress in investigating cases of Ukrainian journalists killed over the past few years, freedom of press related issues. The roundtable was very productive and informative.

Luhansk

IREX/IATP Ukraine officially opened its eighteenth site in Luhansk at the Oblast Youth Library on **February 22, 2002**. The new center is equipped with six computers, and will provide ECA alumni and other target audiences with a fast Internet connection, diverse programs of training courses, and a very comfortable meeting space. The official opening was attended by representatives of Luhansk Oblast Department of Culture and education community, local NGOs, and ECA alumni.

Kirovohrad

On **February 24, 2002**, ten members of the Kirovohrad Alumni Club took part in a **Conflict Resolution** seminar conducted by Olexander Balanutsa (FSA Undergraduate alumnus). The seminar, held in the local IATP center, turned into a dynamic interactive discussion. Those present decided that Conflict Management/Resolution will become a

component of the alumni club's activities in the future.

Mykolayiv

Alumni of various US government-sponsored programs gathered on **February 26** in the recently opened IATP Center to discuss the issue of creating an **alumni club** in their city. The

group agreed to hold club meetings each Wednesday, and to begin their activities with a series of trainings on web design that will enable them to develop a web site of their own in the near future.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

March 29, 2002 - is the deadline for the Local Initiative Grants Program (LIGP)

administered by the American Councils for International Education: ACTR/ACCELS. The aim of the program is to assist former participants of the FSA Undergraduate Program, E.Muskie/FSA Graduate Fellowship Program, Junior Faculty Development Program, Partners in Education, and Regional Scholar Exchange Programs to contribute to the social, economic, and political development of Ukraine. Applications for the program can be submitted to the American Councils for International Education: ACTR/ACCELS offices in Ukraine.

The Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy in Kiev is pleased to announce the International Travel for Scholars Small Grants Program.

The grants are intended to **partially** fund participation of Ukrainian scholarly alumni of USG-sponsored programs in conferences/seminars in North America and Europe (excluding the Newly Independent States). The purpose of the Grants Program is to further the professional development of Ukrainian scholarly alumni and enable them to participate in the exchange of ideas, experience and understanding. It, furthermore, is intended to foster networking among professionals around the world, with a particular focus on Ukraine's integration into Europe.

Former participants of the
Fulbright Scholar Program
Freedom Support Act Contemporary Issues Fellowship Program
Edmund S.Muskie/FSA Graduate Fellowship Program
Freedom Support Act Undergraduate Program
Regional Scholar Exchange Program
Junior Faculty Development Program
Hubert H.Humphrey Fellowship Program

of all years and in the fields of:

American Studies, Art Management, Business Administration, Civic Education, Civil Society, Cultural Anthropology, Democracy Building, Economics, Education, Education Administration, Environmental Studies, Ethics, Foreign Policy and International Relations, History, Human Rights and the Rule of Law, Intellectual Property Rights, Journalism and Mass Communications, Law, Library and Information Science, Linguistics, Management and Marketing, Pedagogy, Philosophy, Political and Social Studies, Psychology, Public Administration, Public Health and Public Policy, Social Work, Sociology, Ukrainian Studies, Urban Studies and Demography, Women's Studies,

who are citizens of Ukraine are eligible to apply.

Alumni should submit proposals that reflect their **own presentations of scholarly papers or research at the conference/seminar** which are related to the above listed fields.

Grants up to a maximum of **\$1,000** may be used to cover international transportation, airport transfers, conference fees and/or per diem. Only proposals that include **cost-sharing** by the alumni's home institution or other sources will be eligible.

A selection committee designated by PAS will review all applications.

Successful proposals will be based on the criteria below.

The extent to which participation at the conference/seminar benefits the alumna/alumnus professionally.

The extent to which the conference/seminar facilitates greater interaction among Ukrainian scholars and scholars from other countries.

The level of cost-sharing.

Proposed activities after participation in the conference/seminar to share information with

others including, but not limited to, lecturing, publications or possible media coverage. These activities should not involve additional grant expenses.

Timeline:

The PAS International Travel for Scholars Small Grants Program will have four rounds of competition in 2002 and will adhere to the following timeline:

1st round Proposal Deadline: February 20, 2002

2nd round Proposal Deadline: April 15, 2002

3rd round Proposal Deadline: June 15, 2002

4th round Proposal Deadline: August 15, 2002

Please note that according to U.S. government regulations travel must be commenced no later than October 14, 2002.

Application instructions:

Applications must be filled in completely in English and must be typed.

Applicants must submit 1 copy of the application to the Public Affairs Section.

(Contact person – Vira Maksymova, Cultural Affairs Assistant)

The total funding requested from PAS must not exceed \$1,000. All applicants must submit a budget including all projected expenses and cost-share contributions. A letter of support indicating cost-share is highly recommended.

Attach a brochure, agenda or printed materials about the conference, your CV and an invitation letter from the organizers **confirming your participation as presenter.**

Please note that according to U.S. government regulations, all international tickets purchased with U.S. Government funds must comply with the Fly America Act requiring utilization of U.S. Flag Air Carriers for international air transportation to the extent service by such carriers is available. All international tickets will be purchased through the U.S. Embassy Travel Office.

Payment will be made according to U.S. government regulations through the Budget and Fiscal Office of the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv. Grant recipients will be responsible for all taxes or fees incurred from the receipt of a grant. Within thirty days after returning from the conference/seminar, grantees will be required to submit a full accounting of all expenditures made with originals of tickets, receipts (for lodging and airport transfers), and a brief narrative report

attached. Grantees shall return to the United States Government any funds that have not been expended.

The Civic Education Project (CEP) is a private voluntary organization dedicated to supporting higher education in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union and Mongolia. Since 1991, CEP has been sending scholars from the West to work in universities throughout the region.

CEP is pleased to announce the following Grant programs:

Support for Community Outreach and University Teaching

– A Program for Edmund S. Muskie/FSA Graduate Program Alumni. This Program provides follow-on support to alumni of Edmund S. Muskie/Freedom Support Act Graduate Fellowship Program of all years and fields of study from the Baltic States and the NIS. The Program is designed to assist these alumni in sharing the benefits of the training and experience received through their graduate study in the United States of America with the academic and professional institutions and community in their home countries. The SCOUT [Full Time Teaching](#), [Part Time Teaching](#) and [Special Projects Grant](#) Programs offer financial, methodological, institutional and informational support to Muskie/FSA alumni who are interested in teaching in institutions of higher education and professional training, or in local communities; in developing projects that promote learning and exchange among students, faculty, and communities; or in facilitating exchange between higher education and professional public and private sector, government, NGOs and other academic and community organizations. The SCOUT Program is funded by the Government of the United States of America and administered jointly by the Open Society Institute and the Civic Education Project. Candidates are recruited through merit-based competition.

Please refer to www.cep.org.hu/scout for application materials and contact information. To learn more about CEP activities in Ukraine, please visit www.cep.kiev.ua

Kennan Institute Central Eurasian Short - Term Grants

The Kennan Institute of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the United States Department of State are pleased to

announce an open competition for the Central Eurasian Short-term Grant Program. The Central Eurasian Short-term Grant Program is designed to assist USIA Kennan Institute alumni in conducting research in libraries and archives throughout the Newly Independent States (NIS). The Short-term grants will be offered to USIA Kennan Institute alumni (alumni who were at the Kennan Institute on a USIA Regional Exchange Scholarship or Contemporary Issues Scholarship) who demonstrate a particular need to travel in order to utilize library, archival, and other specialized resources in the NIS. Central Eurasian Short-term grants can be used for travel and research-related expenses. The amount of the grant can be as small as \$50 or as large as \$1,000.

The Kennan Institute will hold four rounds of competitive selection for Central Eurasian Short-term grants. No application form is required for Central Eurasian Short-term Grants. The applicant is requested to submit a concise description (700-800 words) of his or her research project, a curriculum vitae, a complete budget including all projected expenses, and two recommendation letters in support of the research project. Deadlines for receipt of all materials at the Kennan Moscow Project is **November 1, February 1, June 1, and August 1**. All applications will be reviewed by the members of the Kennan Institute Advisory Council and applicants will be notified of the Council's decision roughly ten weeks after the deadline date. Upon the completion of the term of the grant, each grantee is required to submit a final written report describing his/her research accomplishments, and original receipts for all expenses incurred during the period of grant.

Please submit [applications](#) to:
Kennan Moscow Project
Volkhonka 14 (Building of the Institute of Philosophy)

5th floor, #526

Moscow Russia

Mailing address:

Kennan Moscow Project

Post Box 90

Moscow Russia 103001

For more information, contact Kennan Moscow Project:

Phone: (095) 232-3496/97

Fax: (095) 232-3496/97

Email: kennan@glas.apc.org

(Applications submitted by facsimile transmission or electronic mail will not be considered)

IATP Rolling Mini-Grants

The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State (ECA), together with the International Research & Exchanges Board (IREX), is pleased to announce an open competition for the Internet Access and Training Program (IATP) Rolling Mini-Grants. **All alumni of ECA programs** as well as other IATP targeted audiences are eligible to apply.

The purpose of the IATP Rolling Mini-Grants is to encourage the development of Internet resources in local languages. Maximum funding is set at \$500 per award and will allow targeted audiences the opportunity to create new web resources such as web sites and/or expand already existing web resources. There is no specific deadline for this competition but when submitting an application, please keep in mind that the Selection Committee meets four times a year (February, May, August and November). Applications to be reviewed by the Selection Committee in May should be submitted to IREX/IATP office by April 25, 2002. See <http://www.iatp.org.ua/grants> for more information.

PROJECT REPORTS

Local Initiative Grants Program

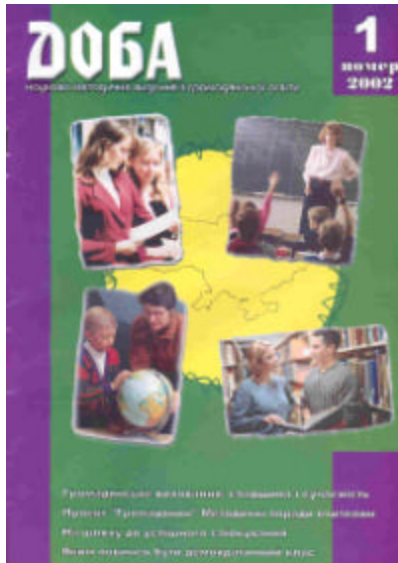
In 2001, six proposal by Ukrainian alumni submitted for Local Initiative Grants Program administered by the American Councils for International Education were selected for funding. The program is aimed at enabling alumni to initiate social, economic and political development projects of their own design. The following projects have been implemented by the Ukrainian grant recipients: NGO and Social Partnership (Kharkiv), Teaching Innovations in Rivne Schools, Women's Role in Sustainable

Development (Kyiv), Contemporary American Literature seminars (Mykolayiv), "Civic Education in School" Newsletter (Lviv), "Critical Thinking Techniques" Seminars (Kerch).

Below is a brief report on some of the above mentioned projects.

Polina Verbytska, PiE alumna from Lviv, together with the All Ukrainian Association of Teachers of History, Civic Education and Social Studies "Nova Doba" published two issues of a

new quarterly newsletter “Doba.” The newsletter informs a wide audience of Ukrainian teachers on the theoretical principles of civic education, innovative methodological techniques, active methods of teaching and learning. The All Ukrainian Association of Teachers of History, Civic Education and Social Studies “Nova Doba” web site is



<http://www.doba.lviv.ua>

Valentyna Pidlisnyuk, FSA CI alumna, professor of the National Agrarian University of Ukraine, conducted a two-day (March 1-2, 2002) seminar “**Women’s Role in Sustainable Development**” for ECA alumni, university teachers, Ukrainian state environmental bodies and NGOs. The agenda of the seminar covered a number of topics including women’s role in the environmental movement in the U.S and Ukraine; Sustainable development strategies and their implementation in the NIS; Increasing participation of Ukrainian women in environmental policy making processes; Awareness-raising and environmental education as an integral part of sustainable development, Ukrainian NGOs and their role in ecological problems handling.

The participants pointed out that a population’s health cannot be maintained without ecologically sound sustainable development and support to countries in transition and developing countries. Every person has a right to live and work in a clean and healthy environment, with clean air, soil, food and water, access to information and protection of human rights. The health of people

should take precedence over economic interests. Women and children are especially vulnerable to the influence of environmental degradation and pollution and are the first to feel its effects. Exposure to toxic chemicals, substances and radiation has an impact on women’s health, in particular reproductive health and the development of the child. Therefore their health should be used as an indicator of the state of the environment of any country.

The participants of the seminar are currently working on publishing the seminar’s material and posting them on a web site.

Anton Demydenko, FSA Undergraduate alumnus, in cooperation with Kharkiv city “AVEC” charity fund worked out a project “**NGOs and Social Partnership**” which stimulates young people’s interest in the third sector in Ukraine. On **February 1-3, 2002**, the first (of three) thematic block brought together about one hundred students, NGO members, representative of local authorities, to discuss a wide range of issues related to the topic “NGOs and the State: creation of effective mechanisms for cooperation.”

The three-day program included a student conference, debate tournament, and two training sessions.

The student conference revealed the great potential of young people in implementing various programs through their non-governmental organizations in Ukraine, Russia and Moldova. The agenda of the conference covered many areas of interest, and seminars



including such important topics as interaction of state institutions and NGOs, mechanisms of partnership, aspects of state regulation of activities of NGOs, participation of NGOs in political processes, and others.

PICTURE – Participants of the student conference

PROFILE



Olexander Chalyi

Olexander Chalyi is the head of the Department of Biological Physics, Information Science and Medical Equipment of the O.Bohomolets Medical University in Kyiv, Professor, Doctor of Physics and

Mathematics. Mr. Chalyi traveled to Madison, Wisconsin in 1997-98 within the framework of the Fulbright Scholar Program. At the Department of Medical Physics, University of Wisconsin- Madison, Mr. Chalyi worked on a project to create bridges between leading U.S. and Ukrainian universities in teaching medical physics and biomedical engineering. Mr. Chalyi is the Head of the Scientific and Methodological Commission in Physics and Astronomy of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine and a member of the Ukrainian Academy of Pedagogical Science. With a group of other specialists, Mr. Chalyi is currently working on the creation of a new Department of Medical Engineering at the National Technical University "Kyiv Polytechnic Institute."

Olexander Chalyi says:

"The experience of teaching medical physics at the University of Wisconsin- Madison gave me a unique opportunity to design a similar department in Kyiv. The new department will bring together a strong emphasis on basic science typical of Ukrainian medical schools and the close practical collaboration with medical institutions typical of American medical schools."

Polina Verbytska

Polina Verbytska participated in the Partners in Education (PIE) program in 1998, and together with her Ukrainian colleagues received her first civic education experience at Northern Arizona University. Since then Mrs. Verbytska has dedicated herself to the development of civic education in Ukraine. Last year she received a Ph.D. in this field.

Polina Verbytska was one of the founders of the All-Ukrainian Association of Teachers of History and Civic Education "Nova Doba." Since its inception in 1998, "Nova Doba" has



held numerous conferences, seminars and workshops for educators; as well as all-Ukrainian contests, and has developed civic education course materials for Ukrainian secondary schools. Polina is now a director of the Center for Civic Education "Doba" created in Lviv in 2000, which plays an important role in promoting civic education in Ukraine.

Polina Verbytska says:

"This fruitful partnership enriches us with huge experience, valuable knowledge for our professional development. And the feeling of equality and mutual understanding brings our countries closer and makes our communication easier."

RELATED LINKS

Alumni of U.S. State Department Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs post-secondary exchange programs are invited to register and use the State Exchange website: <http://statexchange.state.gov>
 FOR THE RECORD – is a bimonthly web-based electronic newsletter that focuses on academic exchanges and alumni highlights published by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs – <http://exchanges.state.gov/education/nonfulb/alumnewsletter>
 American Councils for International Education: ACTR/ACCELS – www.actr.org/alumni
 International Research and Exchange Board : www.irex.org
 IREX/Ukraine : www.irex.kiev.ua
 Internet Access and Training Program in Ukraine: www.iatp.kiev.ua
 Project Harmony: www.projectharmony.kiev.ua
 Civic Education Project: www.cep.org.hu
 CEP/Ukraine: www.cep.kiev.ua
 Ukrainian Fulbright Scholars Association: www.fulbright.kiev.ua

We hope you enjoy this issue of the **Alumni Newsletter**

If you have any comment or suggestions, or would like to contribute to the next issues, we look forward to hearing from you.

Contact person: Vira Maksymova, Cultural Affairs Assistant

e-mail: vm@usinfo.usemb.kiev.ua